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Executive Assistant to the DD/S

12 November 1959

Plans and Policy Staff, OTR

Language Requirements of Support Personnel [REDACTED]

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1. Attached is a tabular statement of language requirements of support personnel [REDACTED]. This was prepared on the basis of my own interpretation of these requirements, but I did cross-check the views expressed here with [REDACTED] Chief of Support, EE, who generally shares my opinions.

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2. [REDACTED] is the only language which support personnel in [REDACTED] require, except in the case of [REDACTED]. The peculiar skills required by the latter are reflected in a note at the bottom of the attached list.

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3. I have shown a language requirement only where I believe it essential. I am sure you appreciate that all the support personnel [REDACTED] could perform their jobs more effectively if they had a knowledge of [REDACTED] and this is particularly true of all those individuals whose duties require them to deal with indigenous personnel. The latter statement is applicable to practically all support personnel there except finance and personnel officers.

4. I have shown the minimum proficiency required in each instance. It goes without saying that a higher level of proficiency would enhance the usefulness of the individual in each case.

5. I believe the attachment is entirely realistic as of the moment. Taking a five-year view, I would say the requirements might require some upgrading if the general level of language proficiency throughout the Agency advances sharply. It would be this latter influence more than the intrinsic requirements of the jobs themselves that would require such an upgrading. Of course, any

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6. I haven't included Commo personnel because I don't feel really competent to comment on their language requirements. However, it is my impression that the only Commo people for whom language is essential are those engaged in agent training. This is a very small group, but their language proficiency should be no less than intermediate and should include languages [REDACTED] [REDACTED] should probably be represented.

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